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# INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6: C07D 237/14, 401/06, 403/06, 237/18, 409/06, 413/06, 405/06, A61K 31/50, C07F 11/00

(11) International Publication Number:

**WO 99/10331** 

(43) International Publication Date:

4 March 1999 (04.03.99)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US98/16479

A1

(22) International Filing Date:

10 August 1998 (10.08.98)

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(30) Priority Data:

08/917,023 Not furnished

22 August 1997 (22.08.97) US US 5 August 1998 (05.08.98)

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(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, IP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

#### **Published**

With international search report.

(54) Title: ARYLPYRIDAZINONES AS PROSTAGLANDIN ENDOPEROXIDE H SYNTHASE BIOSYNTHESIS INHIBITORS

### (57) Abstract

The present invention describes pyridazinone compounds which are cyclooxygenase (COX) inhibitors, and in particular, are selective inhibitors of cyclooxygenase-2 (COX/2), COX-2 is the inducible isoform associated with inflammation, as opposed to the constitutive isoform, cyclooxygenase-1 (COX-1) which is an important "housekeeping" enzyme in many tissues, including the gastrointestinal (GI) tract and the kidneys. The selectivity of these compounds for COX-2 minimizes the unwanted GI and renal side-effects seen with currently marketed non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs).